

# Enfield Clean Energy Newsletter

## The Committee

The Enfield Clean Energy Committee is a Town Committee made up of Enfield Residents interested in promoting Clean Renewable Energy.

### The team members:

Jeff Myjak—Chair  
Ray Gwozdz - V. Chair  
Virginia Higley  
Steve Moriarty  
Greg Mark  
Doug Lombardi

### LIAISONS :

Town Council:  
Tom Kienzler  
William (Red) Edgar

Staff:  
Joel Cox

Interested in joining our team? Send a note to [CleanEnergy@Enfield.org](mailto:CleanEnergy@Enfield.org) and we will send you an application.



## Points:

When we reach 200 points, we will be 1 step closer to getting a 2kw solar system.

Each Clean Option purchase is worth 1 point. Each Solar or Geothermal system is worth 3points.

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| Clean Option Points | <b>172</b> |
| System Points       | <b>90</b>  |
| <b>Total Points</b> | <b>262</b> |

## Volume 2, Issue 3

March, 2013

## Energy Expo — February 23, 2013 Recap

Mother nature finally cooperated with The Enfield Clean Energy Committee. The Expo had been originally scheduled February 9th, but winter storm Nemo caused them to have to reschedule. In the end, it all worked out. Most of the vendors were able to reschedule and despite the threat of another storm, the event came off well. In all, over 600 people came out to hear about the latest technology.

Some of the highlight's of the day included The Connecticut



**Admission is Free !!!!**

**ENERGY EXPO**  
Saturday February 23, 2013  
9 AM to 3 PM  
**JFK Middle School**  
Free Seminars throughout the day

For more information:  
[www.CtEnergyExpo.com](http://www.CtEnergyExpo.com)  
Email: [CleanEnergy@Enfield.org](mailto:CleanEnergy@Enfield.org)

155 Raffia Rd  
Enfield, CT 06082

Geothermal Association bringing a mocked up geothermal system. Mr . Moriarity was there with his electric bike.

The Talented and gifted students were there from JFK showing off what they are working on as well as some of the plans they have for JFK.

The company that makes "Brickenmore" a biofuel out of horse manure was on hand to

talk about their process and what they can do for the farmers of Enfield.

ClearEdge Power (formerly UTC Power) was on hand to talk about how they can help businesses and municipalities and they also did a presentation on how fuel cells work.

Education was what they day was about. The eeSmart Program (Cont.—see Expo, pg 2)

## Talented and Gifted Students of JFK

The John F. Kennedy Middle School Talented and Gifted Program continues in their efforts to make their school environmentally-friendly. We focused on two aspects of the environment: reducing waste through more refined recycling and alternative energies.

The sixth grade TAG students are working on improving recycling efforts--they implemented cafeteria recycling on December 20, 2012--as well as creating a 'green team.' They have also investigated the benefits of an anaerobic digester that

would create usable compost, they hope, for a greenhouse here at JFK. Food grown in the greenhouse would be donated to local charities. More trees on



campus would also reduce our carbon footprint and beautify the

campus.

The seventh and eighth grade students are working on clean energy for JFK. Solar power, according to their investigations, is the most practical. The prospect of receiving solar panels from the Enfield Clean Energy Committee via Energize Connecticut is very exciting. We will investigate grants to upgrade the panels.

The TAG Program will continue to partner with the Enfield Clean Energy Committee in hopes of making our schools 'greener.'

## CLEAN ENERGY OPTION FAQ'S

**Q:** Solar panels can be expensive. Is there the opportunity to lease them?

**A.** Yes, soon there will be. Later this spring, Energize CT will be re-introducing the Leasing option for Solar Panels.

**Q.** I run a business in town and I want to install many energy upgrades. The cost will be \$150,000. Is there a way to pay for it over a longer period of time?

**A.** Yes, through the C-PACE program, it can be financed for up to 20 years. Towns have to sign on to the program and agree to collect the money with your taxes. In return the town is also paid a collection fee for their efforts. Many of the area towns have seen the benefits of this program (both for the businesses and the town as they will receive higher tax revenues) and we are hopeful that Enfield will soon join.

**Q:** I am interested in helping promoted Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency here in Enfield. How can I get involved?

**A.** Currently, we have an opening on the committee, You will need to fill out an application on line. Send an email to "CleanEnergy@Enfield.org" for the link.



[www.enfieldcleanenergy.net](http://www.enfieldcleanenergy.net)

## Enfield Joins Clean Communities Program

On Tuesday, February 19, 2013, The Enfield Town Council approved joining The Clean Community Program. What does that mean? They have pledged to reduce the town's energy usage by 20% over the next 5 years. By doing so, they will save the taxpayers over \$350,000 a year.

Twenty percent sounds like a huge number. Mr. Myjak, Chair of The Enfield Clean Energy Committee, believes that this is a task that can be achieved with little to no taxpayers dollars having to be added to the budget. He explained to the council that The New Enfield High School alone is projected to use 40% less energy. The town has several projects under way in places like The Lamanga Center that will reduce energy usage by over 15% in those buildings (which over 90% is being paid

for by a Federal Energy Grant they received several years ago).

Jonathan Bilmes, Director of Enfield Public Works, has a program he wants to implement at The Public Works garage where a contractor will come in, redo all the lighting at a cost of \$30,000. This will save the garage approximately \$1,000 a month (23% of the energy). Instead of paying the \$30,000 up front, the \$1,000 a month saved will be added onto the electric bill for the next 30 months. So for the next 30 months, they will pay the same amount and after that, they will get to enjoy the savings for years to come.

Because so many Enfield Residents have already had Home Energy Audits, the town will be getting their first Bright Idea Grant—a grant for \$15,000 for Energy upgrade. We are eligible to get up to two of these a

year.

Many of the boilers in town are in need of replacement in the coming years as they are forty plus years old. As they come due for replacing, we will look to use modern condensing boilers which will have an efficiency of around 90 per cent, whereas a non-condensing boiler – even a new one – will only offer about 75 per cent. That doesn't include any additional efficiencies of the motors.

There are ways to reduce or eliminate the use of a boiler for hot water in gyms and cafeteria's. By putting in Solar Hot Water, we eliminate the need to run a boiler. Stafford received grants to put in 4 of these systems on their schools.

Many of these grants will have a short timeline. The key will be to develop a comprehensive plan so that as the grants become available, the town can act on them quickly.

## Energy Expo — February 23, 2013 Recap (cont.)



is a program administered by EnergizeCT (formerly The Clean Energy Fund) that has developed a curriculum for school to use for teaching clean energy and energy alternatives. They also put on the annual eeSmart contest for students K-12. Last year was Enfield's first year for participating and they had 2 7th grader finish in the finals. For more information on the program, check out [www.eesmarts.com](http://www.eesmarts.com).

Dr. Melissa Everett of "The Hudson Valley Sustainable Organization" ([www.sustainhv.org](http://www.sustainhv.org)) presented a talk of how to go about

getting a "Green Job" in today's economy.



TechiArt (run in part by EnergizeCT) was on hand with some amazing lighting packages.



Also on hand were several Alter-

native Energy Suppliers. Even after over ten years of residents and businesses being able to chose who they want to generate their electricity, over 50% of the people still chose CL&P.

There are many programs available for non-profit organizations in Enfield. They include a program run by Viridian whereby groups can receive a sign on bonus for getting people to sign up for choosing their company.

Another program available for non-profits is run by Enfield's Clean Energy Committee. Organizations can receive \$20 for each resident in Enfield that they sign up for The Clean Energy Options.

If you would like details on either of these programs and how your group can benefit, contact [CleanEnergy@Enfield.org](mailto:CleanEnergy@Enfield.org).